



FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

IN REPLYING, ADDRESS THE

Tuberculosis Research Laboratory,
411 East 69th St., New York 21, N. Y.

January 31, 1951.

Dr. Joshua Lederberg,
Department of Genetics,
The University of Wisconsin,
College of Agriculture,
Madison 6, Wisconsin.

Dear Joshua:

I should like to nominate you for the Eli Lilly award in bacteriology, unless this is already being taken care of by someone else. I am assuming that your critical comments on the ~~institute~~ ^{work} last summer were intended more to tease me than to indicate an unwillingness to be considered for the prize yourself! As I am already too old for this sort of thing (i.e., the prize, not the kidding), it would give me great pleasure to make this nomination. If you would like to have me proceed, would you mind sending me a brief biographical sketch, including date of birth and list of publications.

There is not too much new here. I am sorry you found my picture of negative syntrophism unclear, but some day we will straighten it out. We are pretty certain of the structure of Compound X which seems to be a ~~dehydro~~ shikimic acid; this unfortunately is not far enough back to tell us where the ring closure takes place. Meanwhile we have just found another ^{aromatic} precursor that will eventually have to be isolated, and Werner has made fine progress in getting the pantothenate synthesizing enzyme in a cell-free state. It seems to require ATP as an energy source, but no dialyzable coenzyme.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Bernie

Bernard D. Davis

BDD/h1